

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 have been amended to improve the clarity of the claimed subject matter and to bring the claims into conformity with U.S. practice and format, and to place the application fully in condition for allowance. All of the amendments are believed to be fully supported by the original disclosure of this application and therefore should not constitute the introduction of any new matter into this case. The original Abstract has been amended to provide a more concise summary of the disclosure in accordance with U.S. practice format.

Claims 1-5 remain pending upon entry of the amendments to the claims above.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-5 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, the claims have been amended to place same in full compliance with all requirements of 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Claims 1-5 are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner objected to the original claim language in which the front and rear side bars were indicated as being rotatable with respect to the top bar. Original claim 1, line 5, has been amended to recite that the front and rear side bars (24, 26) are connected to the top bar (22), as illustrated in at least Figures 1 and 2. As shown in

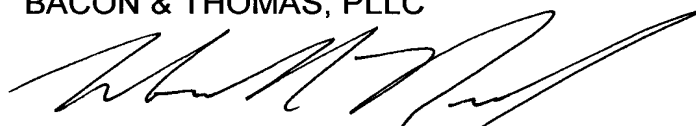
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Figure 5, the top bars (22), shown in Figure 1, are pivotable with respect to the respective top rings (18). The manner in which the top bars 22 are rotatable with respect to the top ring 18 can be performed in any manner that is well known in the art, i.e., a ball and socket arrangement or a flexible band that connects the top bars 22 to the top ring 18.

In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks above, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In the event there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application which can be resolved by a telephone call or facsimile communication to Applicant's Attorney, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone or facsimile at the numbers provided below.

Respectfully submitted,
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC



WONKI K. PARK
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 38,991

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BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Telephone: 703-683-0500
Facsimile: 703-683-1080
WP/jrs

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